

71/4

To His Highness
RICHARD
Lord Protector
OF THE
COMMON-WEALTH
OF
England, Scotland, and Ireland,
and the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging.

THE HUMBLE
REPRESENTATION
AND
Petition of the General Council
of the Officers of the Armies
of *England, Scotland, and Ireland.*

Wednesday 6th April 1659.
Ordered by the General Council of the Officers of the Armies of
England, Scotland and Ireland, That this Representation and
Petition be forthwith Printed and published.

Philip Carteret
Judge Advocate.

LONDON,
Printed by Henry Hills, one of His Highness
the Lord Protectors Printers, 1659.

Great Brit. Army Council of Officers

МОЛДАВИЯ

Keep variant copy = pl. 9.15, (Moldavia)



To His Highness *Richard Lord
Protector of the Commonwealth of
England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the
Dominions and Territories thereunto
belonging.*

*The humble Representation and Petition of
the General Council of the Officers of the Armies
of England, Scotland, and Ireland.*

 Aving as Members of the Army often Solemly declared not without appeals to God for our sincery therein, That We did ingage in Judgement and Conscience for the just Rights and Liberties, Civil and Religious of our Countreys, and not as a Mercenary Army,

Had we not been very jealous of our reputation, and Carefull to avoid Suspicion, which our many Adversaries have endeavoured to bring upon us, as if we were apt to intermeddle with matters not relating to an Army, We had before this time made joyned and Publicque application to your Highness, therein set-

ting forth what immediately concerns our selves, with respect to the crying necessities of the Armies, for want of pay; And withal to have manifested our fervent desires, that our good Cause in the behalf of these Nations, might have received renewed strength and Countenance from Your Highness and this present Parliament.

But Your Highness is our witness how peaceably, how silently we have suffered as to what concerns the Armies wants; Or what might otherwise become us in the behalf of these Nations to have laid before Your Highness.

Yea we have been silent so long, that we fear it has been a disadvantage to our Cause, and bred (though we hope groundless) jealousies of us in many of our friends: And until we, and all that is dear to us, the Interest we have so long contend-ed for, is in danger to be lost; to the utter ruine and subversion of Your Highness, together with the peace and welfare of these Nations.

But being now, under the sence of imminent dangers and necessities, awakened, and also finding that Your Highness, by the sitting of this Parliament, is in a capacity to provide against the approaching danger; and upon consultation with each other, and communicating what has come to our knowledge of publick concern-ment, and the present state of the Armies, ha-ving unanimously agreed it to be our duty to God, to Your Highness, and our fidelity to our Countrey, Submissively, and as becomes us in our Stations, to make our application to Your Highnes: We

We hope it will not be interpreted an interruption to any other publick Concernments under consideration; and do therefore in a deep sence of Misery and Judgement threatned, and pursuance of our Duty, in all humility, Represent,

That the *good old Cause* against Tyranny and intolerable oppression in matters *Civil* and *Religious*, whereupon we first ingaged, and unto which the Lord hath in such a continued Series of Providence given so signal a Testimony, and for the carrying on whereof there hath been such a plentiful powring forth of *Treasure*, *Prayers*, *Tears*, and *Blood* during the late War (in the difficulties and dangers whereof, we also, the living Monuments of Patience, and Mercy, have had our shares) is very frequently and Publickly derided and reproached, and the implacable Adversaries thereof promise themselves to be so far in possession and Masters thereof, that they begin to appear every where visible amongst us, and to mix themselves in the midsts of those places where that Cause was wont to receive its chiefest Countenance and shelter.

Many old Cavaliers and Officers under the late King and *Charles Stewart* his Son, having lately transported themselves out of *Flanders* and other places into this Nation, have their frequent meetings in and neer the City of London.

Those who also served under the late King, and such as have alwayes shewed themselves dis-affested to that famous long Parliament, and ever

ever since to the Cause and interest of this Commonwealth, and seek the ruine of this present Government, have their frequent meetings in several Countries of this Nation, grow very insolent, offer many affronts and assaults to such as have been, and are faithful servants to this Commonwealth.

Papers are scattered up and down, containing Lists of Eminent Assertors of the publick Interest of this Nation, such as were the actual Tryers of the late King, and by whom he was brought to condign punishment, as if they were designed and marked out for destruction.

Encouragement is taken for the prosecution of several well affected persons, and Suits commenced against them at the Common Law, for matters by them transacted as Soldiers, by command from their Superiors, in order to the safety and security of the Nations.

The famous Actions of the Parliament, His late Highnes, of blessed memory, and the Army in and since the year 1648, vilified and evil spoken of; particular persons frequently daring to speak against the Authority of Parliaments, and to call all their proceedings, and of such as acted in obedience to them, illegal and unwarrantable.

So that upon the whole we evidently see there is but even a step betwixt the Publick Cause of these Nations, wherein we have been so signal-ly blessed and owned of God and good men, and the death thereof; and that it is hot likely to expire

expire without a sure presage of the sad Funerals
of the deer and never to be enough valued Peace
of these our native Countries.

And that our enemies may want nothing that
can strengthen their hopes; it so happens, that
the Armies are already under great extremities
for want of Pay, and notwithstanding their con-
dition hath been represented, yet no effectual
remedy hath been applied; our Enemies may
hope discontent will be the more easily raised,
if the Armies should unavoidably be necessitated
upon Free Quarter.

Divisions in the Armies have been attempt-
ed and well neer effected; when their wants have
not been like to what is now upon them: The
Officers purses being generally emptied by
their Loanes to the Souldiers, their credits to
the Victuallars extended to the utmost; The poor
Souldier sometimes inforced to sell his expected
Pay much under the value thereof, for ready
money to buy bread; and the great and un-
usual Mortality of Horses in the Army (inso-
much that many Troopers have been forced to
buy twice over) having brought the Horse of
this Army under exceeding great extremi-
ties:

And as by these means the adversaries to the
Peace, Settlement, Prosperity, Civil and Re-
ligious Liberty of these Nations, are grown ve-
ry confident and high in their expectations and
attempts (as we are persuaded ready to betake
themselves to their Armes again) so likewise
many

many friends thereof are exceedingly discouraged.

We cannot but bewail our own great failings, and turnings aside; and where soever we have backslidden we have cause, and desire to take shame to our selves.

And do therefore for the strengthening of Your Highness and Parliament; For the Reviving the hearts of our Faithful friends, and the vindication of our own integrity against all censures and jealousies, assert;

That we are now, as ever, equally indeared to our good old Cause, and utter Enemies to all Tyranny, Oppression, and Disturbance of the Publick Peace under what pretences soever: And through the Lords assistance resolved, whilst our lives and present capacities are continued to us, to stand by and assist Your Highness and Parliament, in the plucking the wicked out of their places wheresoever they may be discovered, either amongst our selves, or any other places of trust; The Reformation of Law and Manners so frequently declared for, and so earnestly expected by all sober unbiased men. Opening the course of Justice, and Bowels of Mercy, encouraging the wayes of holiness, and putting a stop to the inundation of Malignancy and Profaneness.

All which, as it hath been in Duty and Faithfulness by us represented, so we humbly pray, That Your Highness taking into Your serious consideration, the sad condition of the Armies, and

and danger of the Nations, both from the great want of Pay, and Activity of our common Enemy, will be pleased to represent these things which we have herein laid before Your Highness, to the Parliament, with our Humble Desire and Prayer, that a speedy Supply be made for the Armies, that their past Arrear may be satisfied, and care taken for their constant future Pay, so long as it shall be thought fit to continue them; as also that satisfaction be given to the Militia Forces, and that there may be such a Publick Asserting of our *good old Cause*, and Justification and confirmation of all proceedings in Prosecution and Maintenance thereof, and Declaration against its Enemies, as may for the future deter all persons from Speaking or Attempting any thing to the prejudice thereof, or of the persons that have Acted in Prosecution of it, and afford present security to the Civil and Religious Rights and Liberties of these Nations, and the Peace thereof; And that the Liberty of Good and Well-affected People, in repairing with Freedome to their Meetings for the Worship of God, (of late much Violated by Inditing and Imprisoning many of their Persons) may be still Asserted and Vindicated.

*Helman Bellinzona Ordv. Alaudign Hali
si dico chiswoz possit sic dicere*

The Printer to the READER.

Courteous Reader,

This Representation was agreed on
and Signed by all the Officers
both Great and Small, that are in or near
London, not one dissenting, whose names
should have been herewith Printed, but
that they could not be written out in
time: It was likewise presented to His
Highness the 6th of *April*, 1659.
by the Right Honourable the Lord
Charles Fleetwood, attended with the
rest of the General Council of Officers,
and was most graciously accepted by
His Highness, who expressed himself
with much affection towards both it
and them.